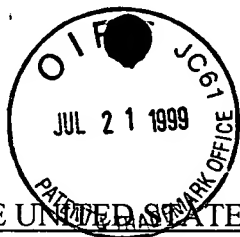


S/N 09/020,869



PATENT

DB
7-28
#9

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Wilfrido R. Castaneda	Examiner:	M. Milano
Serial No.:	09/020,869	Group Art Unit:	3738
Filed:	February 9, 1998	Docket No.:	N.A.
Title:	ENDOASCULAR GRAFT AND PROCESS FOR BRIDGING A DEFECT IN A MAIN VESSEL NEAR ONE OR MORE BRANCH VESSELS		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on July 19, 1999.

By: _____

Tyler L. Nasiedlak

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. The items were cited in an International Search Report on a counterpart foreign application. A copy of the International Search Report and cited references is enclosed.

Certification

This statement should be considered under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d) because it is being filed before the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance, and each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement

Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicant reserves the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not prior art. Moreover, Applicant does not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.


Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Respectfully submitted,

Wilfrido R. Castaneda,

By his attorney,

Dated: July 19, 1999


Tyler L. Nasiedlak
Reg. No.: 40,099

4507 Arden Avenue
Edina, MN 55424
612.836.0795